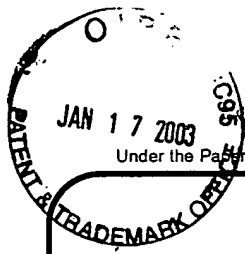


RCE/3676



PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/443,793
Filing Date	November 18, 1999
First Named Inventor	David E. Albrecht
Art Unit	3676
Examiner Name	Alison K. Pickard
Attorney Docket Number	505-02

1-23-03

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
 - i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
 - i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☒ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____
 - i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☒ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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GROUP 3600

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	William H. Eilberg	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,009
Signature	<i>William H. Eilberg</i>	Date	January 10, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	William H. Eilberg	Date	January 10, 2003
Signature	<i>William H. Eilberg</i>	Date	January 10, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

01/21/2003 CV0111 00000087 09443793 375.00 DP 01 FC:2801

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2002

JAN 17 2003

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/443,793
Filing Date	11/18/1999
First Named Inventor	David E. Albrecht
Examiner Name	Alison K. Pickard
Group Art Unit	3676
Attorney Docket No.	505-02

AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)

430.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT

1. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number
Deposit Account Name

☐ Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

2. ☒ Payment Enclosed:

☐ Check ☒ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Code (\$)	Small Entity Code (\$)	Fee Description
101 740	201 370	Utility filing fee
106 330	206 165	Design filing fee
107 510	207 255	Plant filing fee
108 740	208 370	Reissue filing fee
114 160	214 80	Provisional filing fee

Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims	-20** = <input type="text"/>	X <input type="text"/>	= <input type="text"/>
Multiple Dependent	-3** = <input type="text"/>	X <input type="text"/>	= <input type="text"/>

Large Entity Code (\$)	Small Entity Code (\$)	Fee Description
103 18	203 9	Claims in excess of 20
102 84	202 42	Independent claims in excess of 3
104 280	204 140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109 84	209 42	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110 18	210 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139 130	139 130	Non-English specification	
147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month	55.00
116 400	216 200	Extension for reply within second month	
117 920	217 460	Extension for reply within third month	
118 1,440	218 720	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128 1,960	228 980	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119 320	219 160	Notice of Appeal	
120 320	220 160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121 280	221 140	Request for oral hearing	
138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141 1,280	241 640	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142 1,280	242 640	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143 460	243 230	Design issue fee	
144 620	244 310	Plant issue fee	
122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123 50	123 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
126 180	126 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146 740	246 370	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149 740	249 370	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179 740	279 370	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	375.00
169 900	169 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)

430.00

SUBMITTED BY

Complete (if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	William H. Eilberg	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,009	Telephone	215-885-4600
Signature	<i>William H. Eilberg</i>	Date	01/10/2003		

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1-23-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No. 09/443,793
Filed: November 18, 1999
Inventor: David E. Albrecht
Title: FLANGE PLATES FOR
FLUID PORT INTERFACES
Examiner: Alison K. Pickard
Art Unit: 3626
File No.: 505-02

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AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this Amendment in response to the Official Action of September 11, 2002. A Request for Continued Examination is attached. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Please cancel Claims 1-4 and 23-26, without prejudice, and insert the claims shown on the attached pages.

Attached are a clean version of all claims now pending, and remarks in support of patentability of the claims.

For the reasons given in the attached Remarks, Applicant requests reconsideration by the Examiner and early favorable action. If the Examiner has questions, Applicant requests that she telephone the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of this case.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE
IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN
ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF
PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C.
20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY William H. Elberg
DATE 1/10/03

Respectfully submitted,

William H. Eilberg

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Jenkintown, PA 19046
215-885-4600

Attorney for Applicant